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TWENTY THREE DIE WHEN GAS POCKET IS STRUCK

Men Were Working In Cleveland Water Works Tunnel 125 Feet Below Surface of Lake Erie—Gas Pocket Opened Which Exploded—Comrades Working Above Risk and Some of Them Lose Lives In Heroic Efforts to Save the Entombed Men

Cleveland, Ohio, July 25.—Twenty-three lives were snuffed out in the new water works tunnel, it was estimated at 1 p. m. today, when workmen were trapped in a gas pocket 125 feet below the surface of Lake Erie, at 9:30 last night. The gas, ignited by electrical machinery, exploded with terrific force.

Ten bodies of the victims have been taken from the death hole. Rescuers estimate 13 more men are dead in the tunnel. Ten escaped with injuries.

The ten removed were members of the three rescue parties who descended into the death trap, although they had no helmets.

Burrowing towards shore, a little band of workmen 125 feet below the surface of Lake Erie, broke into a monster natural gas pocket. With tremendous force, it swept in upon the helpless workmen, trapping them in the ten foot concrete tube. Then came a terrific explosion, as the gas ignited from a spark in electrical machinery and the tunnel was turned into a death hole in a twinkling.

Failure to make proper tests of gas strength and lack of sufficient air pressure in the tube were pointed out as contributing causes of the disaster.

It was seven hours after the accident before pulmotors and helmets were secured. It was two hours before help arrived. Three men taken from the tunnel died before pulmotors were available.

A triple probe by city, county and state officials will be held to fix the cause and responsibility for the disaster. Officials will meet Monday with Mayor Davis to set the time for the inquest and inquiry.

Captain Hans Hansen of the United States life saving station, was the first on the scene, but he had no helmets or pulmotors so went back for them. Two small boats from the ore freighter Star of Jupiter next arrived, but they had no apparatus with which to cope with the deadly fumes. Finally word was telephoned from shore to G. C. Van Dusen, superintendent of tunnel work. He gathered a gang of workmen, seized a tug and led the rescue work. Twelve men went into the tunnel.

Two firemen, Lavelle and Kisternaker, with gas helmets, were able to penetrate to the main tunnel where Van Dusen was found exhausted.

The body of Clarence Welsh was taken out at the same time. The firemen were undoubtedly all in the tunnel when dead.

The chamber where the men are trapped is filled with deadly fumes.

Eleven of the 23 men trapped were members of a night gang working toward shore in the tunnel. The rest were members of three rescue parties which went down the crib shaft and into the tunnel in a desperate effort to drag their comrades back to safety.

Twelve hours after the accident only eight of the rescuers had been able to drag themselves out of the tunnel. Two of these died later.

Two of the rescuers who came out alive were Patrick Keogh and Martin Nelson, pulled to safety at 7:30 a. m.

All Were Dead.

"Every man still in that tunnel is dead," both declared.

If the 23 men are dead, the tragedy, the greatest in the history of Cleveland

Abe Martin



"The hardest thing I stop is a temporary chairman. The fellow that leads the parade allus has to borrow a hat."

The Rain Beat Matty to the Polo Grounds

New York, July 25.—Christy Mathewson was routed on the first day of his appearance in New York as a baseball enemy today—by the weather man.

What had been looked forward to as one of the biggest days of the year at the polo grounds when Matty should appear on his old home grounds for the first time as manager of the Cincinnati Reds and Buck Herzog would again play as a Giant, was a dark, dripping affair that made a game impossible. A steady rain fell from early morning on and all ceremonies were postponed until tomorrow.

CLAIMS DECISION KNOCKS OUT DRY LAW

Judge Morrow Holds Clause of Law Violates Federal Constitution

Portland, Or., July 25.—An opinion rendered today by Circuit Judge Morrow, should it be sustained by the high courts, strikes a severe blow at the Oregon "dry" law, in the opinion of the district attorney.

In overruling the demurrer to the complaint in the suit of Wadham and company, against the San Francisco and Portland Steamship company, Judge Morrow holds that the provision in the prohibition law limiting to wholesale druggists the right to import alcohol in large quantities is in violation of the interstate commerce clause of the federal constitution. He holds that any genuine manufacturer may import as much alcohol as he desires for his own use.

Judge Morrow pointed out that while his decision might result in many pseudo manufacturing plants springing up, it would be the district attorney's duty to prevent such institutions from becoming "blind pigs."

Arthur Murphy, deputy district attorney, said:

"If the courts hold that it is unconstitutional to prohibit a manufacturer from importing alcohol but permit him to use alcohol, then the provision which prohibits a man from buying more than two quarts of whiskey but permits him to possess whiskey must be unconstitutional, too. So there will be nothing left of the law."

Aked Resigns from Peace Delegation

Detroit, Mich., July 25.—Charles F. Aked, of San Francisco, has resigned as chairman of the neutral peace conference in Stockholm, which was established as an outgrowth of the Ford peace expedition last year.

Dr. Aked made this announcement here this afternoon following a long talk with Henry Ford, promulgator of the peace voyage and backer of the present conference. He gave as his only reason for withdrawing that he and Ford were unable to agree on a policy for the future guidance of the conference.

I am through with the peace expedition," the doctor said.

Fighting Flies and Pests Instead of Mexican Army Is Work of Medical Corps

By William G. Shepherd
(United Press staff correspondent)

Brownsville, Texas, July 25.—Good bye to the good old style of lime whitened army camps.

The use of lime was stopped in all camps this morning by orders which Major Bisham, sanitary inspector for the army of the Lower Rio Grande, issued Monday night.

"We've discovered that flies like white color," said the major. "What we are looking for is something black in the way of a disinfectant. The latest idea is lampblack mixed with petroleum."

At the request of Major Bisham, I accompanied him on a trip of inspection, covering in part some ground gone over by Gen. Bliss a week ago.

"We want Americans to know the exact health and sanitary conditions here," said Bisham. "Many will stories are being sent out about illness among the men. All are untrue."

"The sanitary department of the American army can promise the American people that there is no repetition of the horrors of 1898. We are ready for anything. Relatives of the soldiers back home may rest easy and not worry."

The correspondent saw many unscreened kitchens in the Virginia and Illinois regiments.

"We can't have screens until we get wooden kitchens," said Bisham. "There is no lumber here, but it is being rushed on cars attached to fast passenger trains."

"Look here," Bisham pointed to a ditch in the Virginia camp. "Does not

IRISH QUESTION CAUSES CRISIS IN ENGLISH CABINET

Refusal to Introduce Home Rule Bill Until Irish Agree, Started It

LONDON NEWSPAPERS TAKE GLOOMY VIEW OF IT

"Sympathy of America Is Lost, Dominion Sentiment Against Us"

London, July 25.—The coalition cabinet was endangered today by the Irish question. David Lloyd George, minister of war and originator of the compromise plan for settlement of the Irish question problem, was quoted as having offered to resign in view of the failure of the cabinet to acquiesce in his proposals to the Irish nationalists.

Premier Asquith was understood to be ready also to step down if Lloyd George retired. Threat to submit the question to a vote of the people in a general election was freely made during the cabinet debate.

The only hope of averting such a break lay in the chance that the Irish nationalists would consent to further negotiations. With John Redmond, the party's leader and his followers hailing charges of breach of faith at the ministry, it was admitted this hope was a faint one. Some London newspapers today expressed the belief, however, that if the break came and a general election were called, it would result in support of the cabinet's course, the nationalists having lost confidence of many Irishmen through their willingness to treat in a compromise plan. Such a victory for the cabinet, would, however, it was pointed out, still leave the Irish question suspended.

Redmond Threatens.

The situation today was that the cabinet confessed its purpose not to introduce a home rule amending bill until there was a complete agreement among all the Irish parties and appealed to the nationalists to endeavor to obtain such an agreement. Retention in parliament of the nationalists representation in undiminished numbers was the main point which prevented agreement in the cabinet on the bill and among the various Irish parties.

One other point which gave anxiety was the open threat voiced by John Redmond in the Commons debate that the Irish members held themselves free to exercise their individual judgment in criticizing the government's course, not only in domestic affairs, but in the conduct of the war. It was admitted that if the Irish deliberately seek, as this threat indicates, to air British conduct of the war on the floor, they may seriously embarrass British success in the present great struggle.

Evidencing the crucial nature of the situation, Premier Asquith today conferred with A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, conservative leader of the House of Commons, and with Lord Curzon, secretary of state for India, and later had a conference with the king.

London newspaper editorials took a gloomy view of the crisis.

"It is humiliating to us in the face of our friends and our foes at a time when we claim to be fighting the battle of the small nationality," the Daily News declared. "It means that the sympathy of America is lost to us, and that the whole sentiment of the dominions is against us."

"Now we have the old stone tied once more round our neck in a heavier and more dangerous shape than ever," said the Daily Telegraph. We shall be fortunate if it does not hamper our progress at every step through the deep waters which have yet to be traversed."

GOOD-BYE, JIM

Indianapolis, Ind., July 25.—Locke street today saw the passing of James Whitcomb Riley. At 2:30 p. m. the private funeral of the people's poet was to be held in striking contrast with the overwhelming tribute paid him last night in the state house.

That Hoosiers love Riley was demonstrated when 35,000 men, women and children passed before his bier last night.

The bard's body will be placed in a vault at Crown Hill cemetery. Plans are already under way to make the quiet home on Lockport street a memorial and to erect a state ly edifice at Crown Hill.

It is said that in these latter years the automobile horn is a much more effective instrument in a serenade than the old-fashioned mandolin.

EPIDEMIC INCREASES.

New York, July 25.—Another decided increase in the number of new infantile paralysis cases reported was followed today by a drastic movement by government authorities which meant the barring of children under 15 years from leaving New York state. Reports to the health department up to 10 a. m. today accounted for 150 new cases of the disease, against 89 reported yesterday. Only on one day—July 11, when 155 cases were reported—has today's record been exceeded. Thirty-eight deaths were reported as against 31 yesterday. The total number of cases since the epidemic appeared is now 3,098. There have been 647 deaths.

UNCLE SAM BUYING DANISH WEST INDIES

Purchase Will Prevent Others Getting Naval Base Near Canal

Washington, July 25.—Negotiations for the purchase of the Danish West Indies by the United States will probably be closed today. Consideration is approximately \$25,000,000, it was officially stated at the White House. The negotiations have been carried on by the state department and the Danish foreign office.

The treaty probably will be signed today and submitted at once to the United States senate and the Danish parliament for approval.

The islands are of the most strategic value to the United States. Their acquisition will eliminate danger of any European power acquiring them and establishing a naval base near the Panama canal. Negotiations have been on and off for some years. It is understood now that sentiment in the Danish parliament favors the purchase.

The Danish West Indies comprise the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, a group of the Lesser Antilles. The area is 180 square miles and the population approximately 30,000.

It is understood the United States as a part of the deal, relinquishes any "rights by discovery" to certain parts of Greenland, a Danish possession.

\$280,000,000 ARMY BILL

Washington, July 25.—The last of the great "preparedness" army bill, apparently was near passage in the senate today. Chairman Chamberlain had pushed his measure—the largest of its kind the United States has known—close to a final vote in three days consideration.

Though nearly \$40,000,000 has been knocked off the original senate committee draft, the bill still carried \$100,000,000 more than the house measure.

Another Victim of Bomb Outrage Died This Morning Anarchists Aid in Search

San Francisco, July 25.—The death toll of San Francisco's dynamite outrage was swelled to seven today when Captain Reuben Vaughan, of this city, succumbed at the United States marine hospital of injuries received when the infernal machine exploded. He was progressing favorably, with a mangled right leg, when complications set in and he succumbed.

The presence in San Francisco of at least two men declared to have figured in eastern bomb plots was indicated in telegrams sent out today by Captain Matheson, head of the special bomb squad, Chicago Police of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and Boston were asked to send descriptions and photographs of every known anarchist, fanatic and bomb suspect.

Anarchists Will Aid.

One development in the investigation today was the announcement by members of radical and anarchistic organizations of their intention to aid in the inquiry. They declared the dynamiting acts supplied on their activities and injuries their cause.

Descriptions of two new suspects were placed in the hands of the police today. Samuel Weeks, a street car conductor, reported that two men boarded his car about 12:45 p. m. Saturday at Fourth and Market streets. One carried an old suit case and both left the car not far from Stuart and Market streets, where the explosion occurred. He gave the police a good description of the men.

The presence of ghouls at the scene of the explosion became known today when the police were informed of the

TEUTONS LOSE GROUND ON NEARLY EVERY FRONT

No Large Gains Anywhere But All Are In Favor of Allies—Armies In Two Stretches of Five Miles Each Locked In Death Grip—Tremendous Artillery Duel Is Feature of Last Two Days' Fighting—Russians Advancing Steadily in the Caucasus

By Ed L. Keen,
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

London, July 25.—On nearly every front it appeared today from official statements of all belligerent nations' war offices, the Teutonic allies at some spot or another were compelled to give ground in the face of a general offensive movement.

No large gains were reported anywhere. It was apparent from the statements that on two stretches of about five miles each on the Flanders battle front the armies of the allies and the Teutonic forces were locked in bitter death grips. Berlin reported unsuccessful "resolute attacks" by the British around Pozieres. General Haig detailed counter attacks in the same sector, adding that the enemy had failed to reach his trenches. From all reports it is apparent the deadlock at Pozieres where each side holds half the town, is still continuing and presumably also the hand to hand fighting in the woods north of Longueval.

The second stretch where fighting is apparently of the most violent character, lies between Fries and Soyecourt where, judging from the French and German statements, a bitter artillery duel interspersed with infantry attacks, is proceeding. It is in this sector that the Germans admit that the French have "temporarily" gained ground south of Estrees.

Full admission in the German statement that General Sakharoff's Russian forces have penetrated the first German lines south of Beresteczko confirmed previous Russian claims of the progress of the enveloping movement around Brody, on the way to Lemberg. Petrograd claimed further gains by these same forces. It also reported additional gains by the Grand Duke Nicholas in the Caucasus against the Turks.

The Italian statement of today claimed capture of Mount Cimone, highest peak in the Northern Appenines, which must have been an engineering as well as a military feat.

Terrific Artillery Duel.

London, July 25.—The British thrust of today in France was a hurling forward of an inferno of flame, steel and shot along a five mile front from Thiépval to Longueval. At only three points in this stretch was there contact of men—Delville, High Woods and Pozieres. The last named village which is divided by the main highway from Albert to Bapaume itself housed British and Germans. Ever since Sunday morning the two forces have grappled hand to hand in desperate combat.

The wide street which stretches out in the town's suburbs to join the Bapaume highway is No Man's Land. It was swept by a rain of machine gun bullets from both sides. Now and then the deluge stopped momentarily, as forces from one side or the other charged. Then it was bayonet to bayonet. At last reports it seemed that the Anzacs—sturdy Colonials tested in the blazing heat of Gallipoli—were slowly but surely wresting an advantage.

None the less desperate were the struggles for supremacy in the two forests of Delville and High Woods. The forests themselves were gone. Of the leafy foliage nothing remained. Shot and shell and hand grenades had stripped the trees into gaunt fire blackened poles or laid them low on the ground in inextricable confusion. Behind those barriers of logs the Germans and British fought desperately.

There was no diminution in the artillery fire which Gen. Haig has now been pouring ceaselessly into the German lines since Friday. On the other hand, the Germans pounded away with explosive shells, gas shells, shrapnel and machine gun fire.

French Made Gains

Paris, July 25.—Another advance of French troops was reported in today's official statement. They carried "strongly fortified block houses" south of Estrees and ejected the Germans from trenches they occupied near by. Counter attacks elsewhere along the French front by the Germans were repulsed.

North of Ovillers the Germans were thrown out of some trenches they had occupied.

On the left bank of the Meuse a

(Continued on Page Two)

THE WEATHER

I'M GOING TO THE BIG BARGAIN SALE TODAY

Oregon: Tonight and Wednesday, generally fair; northwesterly winds.